

What is claimed is:

1. An envelope comprising:
  - a) a front wall having two lateral edges, a top edge, and a bottom edge; and
  - 5 b) a rear wall having two lateral edges, a top edge, and a bottom edge, the front and rear walls joined along their respective lateral and bottom edges;the front and rear walls each comprising
  - i) an outer ply comprising
    - 10 (a) an outer layer comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of propylene polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester; and
    - (b) an inner layer comprising ethylene homopolymer or copolymer,
  - 15 wherein the outer ply has an outer surface and an inner surface; and
  - ii) an inner ply having an inner surface and an outer surface, comprising an air cellular or foamed material;the inner surface of the outer ply being adhered to the outer surface of the inner  
20 ply.
2. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the two lateral edges of the front wall are joined to the two lateral edges of the rear wall by heat seals.
- 25 3. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the bottom edge of the front wall is joined to the bottom edge of the rear wall by a heat seal.
4. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the bottom edge of the front wall is joined to the bottom edge of the rear wall by a fold.
- 30 5. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the envelope comprises a closure flap extending from the rear wall of the envelope.

6. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the front wall and rear wall are of substantially equal length, and the front and rear wall are adapted to be closed by means of an adhesive disposed near the top edge of the front or rear wall.
- 5 7. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the front wall and rear wall are of substantially equal length, and the front and rear wall are adapted to be closed by means for heat sealing.
8. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the outer layer of the outer ply comprises calcium carbonate.
- 10 9. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the outer ply comprises an intermediate layer, disposed between the outer layer and inner layer, comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of olefin polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester.
- 15 10. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the outer layer of the outer ply comprises a blend of between 50% and 95%, by weight of the outer layer, of a polymer selected from the group consisting of propylene polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester, and between 5% and 50%, by weight of the outer layer, of an
- 20 polymer or copolymer different from the propylene polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, or polyester or copolyester.
11. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the inner layer of the outer ply comprises a blend of between 50% and 95%, by weight of the inner layer, of a polymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene homopolymer or copolymer, and between 5% and 50%, by weight of the inner layer, of an olefin polymer or copolymer different from the ethylene homopolymer or copolymer.
- 25 12. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the closure flap comprises an adhesive disposed on one side of the flap.
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13. The envelope of claim 1 wherein the air cellular material comprises a formed layer, and a substrate layer which functions to close the formed layer to define cavities within the air cellular material.
- 5 14. A method of making an envelope comprising:
- a) providing a multilayer film web comprising
    - 10 i) an outer layer comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of propylene polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester, and
    - ii) an inner layer comprising an ethylene homopolymer or copolymer;
  - b) providing a second web comprising an air cellular or foamed material;
  - c) advancing the multilayer film web and the second web between a heated roll and a second roll, such that
    - 15 i) the outer layer of the multilayer film web comes in contact with the heated roll,
    - ii) one surface of the second web comes in contact with the second roll, and
    - iii) the inner layer of the multilayer film web comes in contact with and adheres to the second web to form a laminate;
  - 20 d) cutting the laminate to form a first portion and a second portion, each portion having two lateral edges, a top edge, and a bottom edge; and
  - e) sealing the first and second portions along their respective lateral edges and bottom edges to form the envelope.
- 25 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the two lateral edges of the first portion are joined to the two lateral edges of the second portion by heat seals.
16. The method of claim 14 wherein the second portion has a length greater than the length of the first portion, such that a closure flap is formed that is integral with the second portion of the cut laminate.
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17. The method of claim 14 wherein the second portion has a length substantially the same as the length of the first portion, and one of the first and second portions has a sealing tape disposed thereon, the sealing tape adapted to close the envelope.
- 5 18. The method of claim 14 wherein the second portion has a length substantially the same as the length of the first portion, and the first and second portions are adapted to be closed by heat sealing.
19. The method of claim 14 wherein the multilayer film web comprises an intermediate layer, disposed between the outer layer and inner layer, comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of olefin polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester.
- 10 20. A method of making an envelope comprising:
- 15 a) providing a multilayer film web comprising
- i) an outer layer comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of propylene polymer or copolymer, polyamide or copolyamide, and polyester or copolyester, and
- ii) an inner layer comprising an ethylene homopolymer or copolymer;
- 20 b) providing a second web comprising an air cellular or foamed material;
- c) advancing the multilayer film web and the second web between a heated roll and a second roll, such that
- i) the outer layer of the multilayer film web comes in contact with the heated roll,
- 25 ii) one surface of the second web comes in contact with the second roll, and
- iii) the inner layer of the multilayer film web comes in contact with and adheres to the second web to form a laminate;
- d) folding the laminate to form a first portion and a second portion, each portion having two lateral edges; and
- 30 e) sealing the first and second portions along their respective lateral edges to form the envelope.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the second portion has a length greater than the length of the first portion, such that a closure flap is formed that is integral with the second portion of the folded laminate.

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22. The method of claim 20 wherein the second portion has a length substantially the same as the length of the first portion, and one of the first and second portions has a sealing tape disposed thereon, the sealing tape adapted to close the envelope.

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23. The method of claim 20 wherein the second portion has a length substantially the same as the length of the first portion, and the first and second portions are adapted to be closed by heat sealing.

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